January 19, 2012

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: LightSquared Working Group, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

For several months, I have been following the developments of the "Lightsquared" nationwide broadband access proposal. Several friends have made me aware of a few issues, most notably some serious allegations that the tests were "rigged" in favor of the GPS side of the argument.

It seems very odd to me that many of the sources of information, including testing done by an outside independent testing facility, are being ignored on this issue. I have been informed that the latest round of testing would not be used in the final decision. I'm also getting some conflicting reports on that data set. One side claiming online that there is no interference, and the GPS folks using the SAME SET of data claim it does.

As a political blogger in a rural state, I'm used to seeing conflicting sources, but hardly ever see it when based on the same data.

Up here in Maine, those of us using the Internet for freelance work live and die by out Internet connections. Just last week, a trip to Dixville Notch almost turned to disaster for one of the Fox News reporters as his onboard GPS led his SUV off the normal road, onto an apparent logging road, and into a ditch. One other local reporter (whose 'home office' is over 100 miles away) told me he too lives and dies by where he can get WiFi, and more importantly, broadband access.

This has already taken too long, and nobody really believes we have to choose between better broadband and GPS, but somebody does have to choose who pays and how the system gets done. I urge you to get on with making those decisions.

Sincorely.

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